

Claims

What is claimed is:

5 1. A method of contouring a surface portion of a head for a disc drive that includes a disc rotatably mounted on a base, the method comprising:

 positioning the head over a park zone of the disc; and

 rotating the disc for a selected time to burnish the head against the park zone of the disc while maintaining the head positioned substantially over the park zone.

10 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the park zone comprises a textured surface.

 3. The method of claim 2, wherein the textured surface includes bumps that interact with the surface portion of the head.

15 4. The method of claim 1, wherein the rotating step includes rotating the disc at a fixed rotational speed for the selected time.

20 5. The method of claim 4, wherein the fixed rotational speed is less than an operating rotational speed of the disc.

 6. The method of claim 5, wherein the fixed rotational speed is less than a take off speed of the head.

25 7. The method of claim 4, wherein the rotating step comprises rotating the disc for a period of time of from about five minutes to about thirty minutes.

 8. The method of claim 1, wherein the rotating step includes plural sequences of starting and stopping the disc.

30 9. The method of claim 8, wherein the rotating step includes from about 100 to about 500 starting and stopping sequences.

10. A disc drive including a disc rotatably mounted on a spindle motor mounted on a base and an actuator assembly mounted adjacent the disc, the actuator assembly having an actuator arm including a distal end supporting a head over a surface of the disc, the head comprising:

5 a head surface portion facing the disc surface, wherein the head surface portion has been contoured by positioning the head over a park zone on the disc and maintaining the head positioned substantially over the park zone of the disc while rotating the disc for a selected time so as to burnish the head surface portion.

10 11. The disc drive of claim 10, wherein the head surface portion has a roughness of less than about 0.5 nanometers.

12. The disc drive of claim 10, wherein the park zone comprises a textured surface defining a plurality of bumps that interact with the surface of the head as the head is burnished.

15 13. The disc drive of claim 12, wherein the disc is rotated at a fixed rotational speed for the selected time as the head is burnished.

20 14. The disc drive of claim 13, wherein the fixed rotational speed is less than an operating rotational speed of the disc drive.

15. The disc drive of claim 14, wherein the fixed rotational speed is less than a take off speed of the head.

25 16. The disc drive of claim 13, wherein the disc is rotated for a period of time of from about five minutes to about thirty minutes.

17. The disc drive of claim 12, wherein the disc undergoes a plurality of starting and stopping sequences as the head is burnished.

30 18. The disc drive of claim 17, wherein the plurality of starting and stopping sequences is between about 100 and about 500 sequences.

19. A method of contouring a surface portion of a head for a disc drive that includes a disc rotatably mounted on a base, the method comprising:

positioning the head over a park zone of the disc; and

contouring the head surface portion to reduce contact between the head and the disc

5 during operation of the disc drive.

20. The disc drive of claim 19, wherein the contouring step comprises rotating the disc at a fixed rotational speed for a selected time.

10 21. The disc drive of claim 19, wherein the contouring step comprises plural sequences of starting and stopping rotation of the disc.

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